

Notwithstanding the above, in the case of the record of an executive session of the committee that is closed to the public pursuant to Rule XXVI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the record shall not be published or made public in any way except by majority vote of the committee after all members of the committee have had a reasonable opportunity to correct their remarks for grammatical errors or to accurately reflect statements made.

Rule 19. Amendment of Rules.—The foregoing rules may be added to, modified, amended or suspended at any time.

THE ADMINISTRATION'S REFUSAL TO ADJUST 2000 CENSUS DATA

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to express my disappointment over the decision announced this week by Commerce Secretary Donald Evans to release raw census data without adjustment for the undercount of an estimated three million Americans.

By law, the Census Bureau is required to provide census figures to the States for the purpose of redistricting by April 1, 2001; a deadline that is nearly four weeks away. Only last week, I joined with 47 of my Senate colleagues in a letter to Secretary Evans urging him to delay a decision to release the 2000 census figures until after the Commerce Department's self-imposed March 5, 2001, deadline to allow the appropriate Senate Committees an opportunity to hold hearings. My intent in signing the letter was not to delay the statutory deadline, but rather to request that there be Congressional input.

I was interested that the President, in his first budget proposal, said, "our Nation has a long and honorable commitment to assisting individuals, families, and communities who have not fully shared in America's prosperity." I believe this is true, which is why failing to count all Americans has serious consequences for State, local, and Federal Government.

There are approximately 1,327 Federal domestic assistance programs that use population data in some way. The breadth of the programs affected that touch families and businesses throughout the nation clearly spells out the need to ensure that all Americans are counted. Federal and State funds for schools, employment services, housing assistance, road construction, day care facilities, hospitals, emergency services, programs for seniors, and much more are distributed based on census figures. The use of raw census data, without adjustment for the differential undercount, will result in the unfair distribution of Federal funds.

A March 1, 2001 memorandum to Secretary Evans from the acting director of the Census Bureau recommended using unadjusted census data for redistricting purposes. According to the memo, "The primary reason for arriving at this conclusion is the apparent

inconsistency in population growth over the decade as estimated by the Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation, ACE, and demographic analysis. These differences cannot be resolved in the time available for the Committee's work." In other words, the Executive Steering Committee for ACE Policy ran out of time and could not determine whether the uncorrected data is more accurate than corrected data.

As a member of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, I provide legislative support and oversight over the decennial census and the Census Bureau. Moreover, as a Senator from Hawaii, I knew that the percentage of people undercounted in my state during the 1990 Census, 1.9 percent, was higher than the national average. The largest component of my state's undercount by race was projected to be Asians and Pacific Islanders. I was so concerned that Hawaii would once again have a higher than average undercount that, last March, I held a forum in Hawaii on issues facing Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders related to the 2000 Census. I urged Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders to participate in the 2000 Census in order to ensure accurate data and statistics especially since this information directly impacts our lives for the next ten years.

I call upon the Secretary to make available to the public the detailed information that the Census Bureau has compiled to date, including overcounts and undercounts. Again, I am disappointed with the Administration's decision in this matter.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LAURIE LAWSON

• Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, Laurie Lawson comes from a long line of farmers in Darlington, SC, and he drew upon that experience as our State's executive director of the Farm Service Agency. After 8 years at the helm, he has stepped down. Farmers knew that Mr. Lawson would respond to their needs with knowledge and compassion and work effectively to open lines of communication between the farming community and Federal agencies. Whatever the matter at hand—whether it was drought relief or the tobacco settlement—Laurie Lawson played an important role on behalf of South Carolina farmers. I know he is looking forward to spending more time with his grandchildren and keeping up with his beloved Clemson Tigers. However, my staff and I will greatly miss his expertise on agricultural issues and feel honored to have worked with such a dedicated public servant.●

A TRIBUTE TO HAROLD HOWRIGAN

• Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am very fortunate to be one of only one hundred

individuals chosen to represent my fellow Americans here in the Senate. As a result of this work, I have the opportunity to meet many, many people. Occasionally I have come to know people who are so giving of themselves, so devoted to their life's work, that they truly serve as an inspiration. I would like to take a few moments to recognize one such individual, Harold Howrigan of Fairfield, VT.

Harold has been a dairy farmer in Vermont his entire life and has been a Director of the St. Albans Cooperative Creamery for over 20 years, as well as the long-time President of the co-op. He has been actively involved with dairy promotion on State, national, and international levels, and has worked with practically every dairy farm organization that I know, including Dairy Management Inc., the National Milk Producers Federation, the U.S. Dairy Export Council, the National Dairy Board, the Vermont Farm Bureau, and the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact Commission.

Harold and his wife, Anne—a former school teacher, who is still a very active tutor, mentor and volunteer in the cause of education have also devoted themselves to educating future generations about agriculture, starting with their five children—Harold, Lawrence, Michael, Bridget and Ellen—and their 12 grandchildren. They are very special friends of my wife Marcelle, my children and me.

Most recently, Harold has been honored as the recipient of what some call the "Nobel Prize" of the dairy industry, the Richard E. Lyng award from the National Dairy Promotion and Research Board. This award recognizes an individual for their "distinguished service to dairy promotion and research." I can't think of another individual more deserving of this honor than Harold Howrigan.

In a recent interview Harold said "family farmers are the best, hardest working people in the world . . . it's a business and a way of living that is second to none in this country." I couldn't agree more and I thank Harold for the tremendous work he has done for the dairy industry in Vermont and across America, as well as the expert and unselfish counsel on agriculture he has provided to me and my staff over many years.

I ask that an article about Harold be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the St. Albans (VT) Messenger, Feb. 26, 2001]

TO HAROLD HOWRIGAN: CONGRATULATIONS
(By Emerson Lynn)

Occasionally, something happens that is so right that when you learn about it, you pound the table and say, yes, that's what should have happened.

That's our response to the news that Harold Howrigan was the recipient of the Richard E. Lyng Award for "distinguished service